BISHOP FORD CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

HIGHPOINT

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Vinnie Amato; Take One

Anthony A. Gallotto

Vinnie Amato recently auditioned and was choosen to be in a dancing sequence of the movie,Saturday Night. The movie will star John Travolta of the smash television series, Welcome Back Kotter, and will make its theater debut in December of this year.

Vinnie, who is a senior, learned to dance at Darrian Dance Studio and has aspirations of becoming an actor. Although Vinnie feels that he is extremely versatile and could act any part, he truly wishes to do serious acting. Vinnie states, " I hope this movie will give me that once-in-a lifetime chance that every young actor is looking for. It could mean a chance for other parts in movies and possibly open the doors to the Actors' Guild."

When asked how he got the part,Vinnie stated," A good friend of mine was chosen to be a stand-in for John Travolta because they look so much alike. Then this friend learned that they were looking for dancers and my name was brought up. All I actually did was show up for an audition and everything else seemed to fall into place."

Vinnie, who has become a close friend of John Travolta, had some comments about him:"John is a very down-to-earth sort of person, the fact that he is a star really makes no impression on him. John tells me that sometimes being a star can even be a hinderance; he is attacked by fans or asked to fight someone because of the role he plays on television. I enjoyed working with him and hope to do it again."

Vinnie Amato, like John Travolta, is also a very down-to-earth sort of person and yet, like us all, has those hopes and aspirations that drive us to greatness. Only in Vinnie's case these hopes and aspirations will most likely drive him much further.

NEW *HIGHPOINT* STAFF CHOSEN

The new Editorial Staff of Highpoint was recently disclosed by the newspaper's present Editor-in-Chief, Anthony A. Gallotto, and the paper's moderator, Mr. George A. McKay.

John A. Barnes will lead the staff next year as the Editor-in-Chief. John, who will be a senior in September, has devoted his time and effort to the newspaper over the past four years. Edward Bove, who will be a sophomore, has shown signs of brilliant determination and writing ability and was appointed the new Assistant Editor. Michael Grecco, another of the paper's brillant reporters, will assume the position of News Editor. John Coppola will use his obvious creative ability on the newspaper as the Feature Editor. Joseph Bentivegna will assume the position of Editorial Editor. Joseph Catalano, Edward Bialoglowski, and Steve Petruccio will remain in their present positions as the Sports, Photo, and Art Editors, respectively.

"These boys," as Mr. McKay stated recently,"have demonstrated that they are vitally interested in Highpoint. They are all very hard workers and I have complete trust in them."

The new Editorial Staff of Highpoint definitely promises to be extremely dedicated and competent. They have all been subjected to the dynamics of journalism, they have worked under pressure, and have shown significant writing ability. Mr. McKay remarked,"Because I was asked to moderate the newspaper sometime last October, I had no voice in the selection of this year's editors. The staff that I inherited has been, for the most part, excellent. But the boys who were choosen by the outgoing Editor-in-Chief, Tony Gallotto, and myself this time, are the first group I have had any say in selecting, and they are truly hard working. I am sure we will have a very fine newspaper next year."

(top row) STEVE PETRUCCIO, JOE BENTIVEGNA, JOHN COPPOLA
(lower row) ED BIALOGOWSKI, MIKE GRECCO, ED BOVE, JOHN BARNES, John Ferro, Joe Catalano

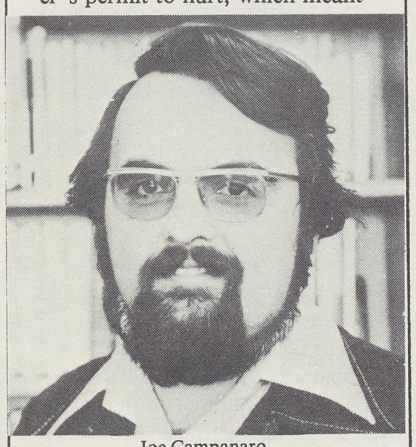
FACULTY FOCUS: Joe Campanaro

Joseph Bentivegna

If you were just to meet Mr. Campanaro, as I did, you would think that this man's greatest wish as a child was to become a teacher because he does it so well. But, although he loves his job very much, his aim in life was to become a professional assassin. Believe it! Let's take a look into this fascinating man's life.

He was born in Queens but moved to Long Island at a young age. Growing up on Long Island, he went to St. Joseph's grammar school which, by the way, had Bro. Alphonsus for a principal. In grammar school he was a pro at shooting marbles. He took second best in the county. After grammar school he attended St. Anthony's High School, St. Francis College,The University of Virginia, and Brooklyn College. In college he was part of an exchange program that went to Latin America. In Latin America he attended Bogata, Columbia, where he studied the customs and geography of the country and received a degree in Latin American studies.

After college he decided to go into the State Department as a professional killer. He never kept up with it long enough to achieve a license to kill, but he had a learner's permit to hurt, which meant he was able to break a person's arm or leg as long as he didn't kill anyone. Although he was very interested in it, he ruled it out as being too dull and besides, paid assassins work on a commission basis rather than having an annual salary. The uncertainty of that situation was too much for him.



Joe Campanaro

The next occupation that he was very interested in was teaching. When he was in high school there was a social studies teacher he thought to be very interesting and because of this teacher, Mr. Campanaro decided to get a degree in social studies so he could teach. His entire eight-year teaching career has been spent teaching at Bishop Ford. When I asked him why he never decided to teach anywhere else, he said, "Bishop Ford is a generally pleasant place with generally pleasant people." His feeling on the new school's demerit system is this, he is in favor of a behavior code so the kids know what is expected of them. He thinks if the code is ever in need of change, it should be changed for the better.

Besides being a really great teacher, he is the yearbook director, and he once wrote and directed a play with Bro. Michel here at Ford a few years ago, entitled "The Diary of Thaddeus Burke." Mr. Campanaro's wife played a small part in the play. This play is being done again at St. Francis Prep.

NINE SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

James Worsdale

We at Highpoint have recently learned that Thomas G. Walsh of homeroom 409 has been awarded a 2000 dollar scholarship to New York University. This scholarship is the result of a special examination given on January 31, and is primarily for his tuition in the College of Arts and Science. Tom plans to major in pre-medicine and,some day, to become a doctor.

Eight other students from Bishop Ford have won scholarships and grants. They include: Phillip Bove, Matthew Cole, Thomas Ferro, Michael Fragale, Edward Giltenan, Majed Khandji, Frank Pancali and Frank Passaro.

Philip Bove of homeroom 401 won a Scholastic Excellence Scholarship and is planning to attend Saint Francis College. Matthew Cole of homeroom 402 won a 1500 dollar grant to Marist College. Tom Ferro was awarded a 1500 dollar grant to Hamilton College, but plans to take a 4500 dollar grant to Colgate University. Michael Fragale won a 100 dollar grant from UNICO National Society, a 1500 dollar grant from Fordham University and three Scholastic Excellence Awards from Saint John's University, Long Island University, and Pace University, which he is planning to attend. Edward Giltennan won a 1300 dollar scholarship from Marist College. Majed Khandji was awarded a 1200 dollar scholarship to Polytechnic Institute of New York, Frank Panicali won a Science Scholarship to Saint John's University for a project on solar energy. Finally, Frank Passaro was awarded a 2000 dollar scholarship to the college of his choice and he plans to attend New York University.

We of the staff of Highpoint offer our congratulations to the scholarship winners and have great hopes for them in their respective pursuits of their future objectives.

from the Editor's desk...

Anthony A. Gallotto

WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE

As this first year of Bishop Ford Central Catholic High School draws to a close the opportunity arises to sit back and reflect upon all that has been said and done. Being of that sort who never lets opportunity ride, I shall address myself in this editorial to all that has brought us to where we now stand.

THE ADMINISTRATION

The administration of this new school began the year by establishing the fact that they are in complete control, and for this the administration should be commended. However, the manner in which the administration keeps control of the student body has been questioned by many members of the student body. Some students feel that the administration uses the demerit system as an axe with which to battle the students into submission. This newspaper realizes that the demerit system was one way the administration found to restrain the students from making infractions of the rules. But this newspaper feels that if the demerit system is to continue, a merit system should also be instituted. It is our opinion that a merit system is vital to the morale of the student body; it would serve as a way to restore erring students to the right path.

THE STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council sought to do many things this year like holding parties, dances, trips and rallies, as Ralph Piccarelli stated elsewhere in this newspaper. But why was such a vital matter as the demerit system left until an extremely late stage in the year. Why, after promising at the senior assembly that something would be accomplished, did the Student Council neglect to follow through.

Please understand that the entire Student Council does not wallow in irresponsibility. There are those members like Robert Wilson, John Polizzotto and John Zielinski who worked to the best of their ability to really get involved and get something done. Then there are those students who were elected to their positions for the sole intent of gaining prestige. It was these few students who greatly hindered all the other Student Council members. It was these few students who bluffed their way into office and subsequently deceived the people who elected them.

THE FACULTY

The faculty that has been assembled for this new school appears to be of good quality. They seem to be involved and active in the Ford Community. The new faculty seems to want to be a real part of the school: they have made themselves available to the student body and have helped the student body through this first year.

THE STUDENT BODY

The student body has demonstrated its apathy this year through the non-support of the activities that have been organized. The school spirit that was supposed to be built by the Student Council and the work of the students themselves never got off the ground. They, the student body, found it difficult to coordinate themselves in the wake of poor leadership. If the student government were organized properly the apathy of the student body would not have been so great.

There are a few points that the students should learn from all that has happened this year, but perhaps the most important concerns the student government. They are an important factor in the scheme of the school and as such should be chosen wisely. If they do not work to the satisfaction of most of the student body, it is the student body's right to complain to the administration and to the Council themselves. The reason that the Council is so important lies in the fact that they are the basis for all that goes on here at Ford. If they do nothing, and the student body does nothing, then it is simple enough to determine that nothing will be done.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor-in-Chief
of Highpoint

Dear Anthony Gallotto:

We have a basically good library here at Bishop Ford Central Catholic High School. While it is large and well kept, it has come to our attention that the library contains certain inappropiate volumes. We have known of the library's inadequacies for a long time, but until recent weeks, were not aware of the existence of certain books that contain anti-Catholic theories. We understand that a library must contain many diverse sources of information, but we cannot understand how a school which asserts a Roman Catholic education could allow its library to make available literature that has definite anti-Catholic ideas involved in its content.

A book such as The Passover Plot by Herbert Schoenfeld, just one of the objectionable volumes, could be read by any impressionable person and it could diminish or weaken his spiritual faith. It is our belief that this book could be used in a classroom situation, where a teacher could criticize its shortcomings and explore its mistakes.

If it is said that there should be diversity in our library, then why are there not more books by authors such as Gary Allen, Dan Smoot and Clarence Manion, which present a more conservative viewpoint.

Respectfully,
NIck D'Elia,
Vincent Orgo,
Dan Petruccio,
John Polizzotto,
and Anthony Stucchio

Dear Mr. Gallotto:

A respect for human rights necessarily includes a tolerance of free thought, of the right to individual opinion, and of the right to read whatever one wishes to read. The Catholic Church has always prided itself on its respect for both humanity and human institutions. Mr Petrucchio, who claims to be both an American and a Roman Catholic, has proposed a method of preserving the basic human dignity of every student in Bishop Ford Central Catholic High School: ban books.

It is indeed refreshing to see paternalism in an eighteen year old man. After all, someone must control our minds, and it would be wonderfully satisfying if that person were one of our own. This alone would disprove that there is no responsibility in the young. Indeed, Messrs. Petrucchio, D'Elia, and Pogioli are overly zealous in the commission of their responsibilities. And for this they should be commended by those fortunate few who were condemned to death for possessing vernacular Bibles.

I have only one thing to say regarding Mr. Petrucchio's pet peeve (the lack of "good American" books in our school library). The authors of those "good American" books, to whom Mr. Petrucchio refers, are proven extremists, slanderers, and threats to our nation. Gary Allen, Dan Smoot, and all the rest would undermine faith in our government and would pervert youth's outlook of the world through a screen which is riddled both with fabricated international conspiracies and alleged Communist plots.

Yet, I myself would be more than pleased to see those authors represented in our library. If free speech is to be sincerely free, it must be totally free. Free speech allowed those writers to publish and free speech will ultimately silence them.

Nicholas Zavardino

Memories

Keith Dolan

The bell rang a long time ago. Now, as I walk down the empty halls, I reflect on four years gone by.

The trepidation and reservation of the freshman year solidified into a feeling of apprenticeship by the sophomore term. As juniors, we all began to feel confident that we had "made it." And, as seniors, don't we have an assured, secure feeling?

Leaving Bishop Ford Central Catholic is a bittersweet experience. Of course, no condition is permanent. Graduation is obviously healthy and natural. However, won't we be sad to leave? After all, it was those rare people who we were lucky enough to call friends that made Ford come alive. These people made the school more than rooms filled by facts and figures. They made it come alive: the inanimate building became a living, functioning, and vital community.

I suppose we will eventually make new friends in college, the business world, or wherever we head to. It just won't be the same. Everyone knows that the experience of high school is unique; friends are all too frequently never seen again, and the vastness of the "outside world" makes future relationships somewhat uncertain.

Naturally, in a few years, most of us will be well adapted to our new environments and surroundings. The future must be played out: no one can or should stop it. However, for the time being, I'll relish the past.

Good-by, Bishop Ford. We're going to miss you. . .

CARTER AND FOREIGN POLICY

Victor Levine

Jimmy Carter has been our President now for more than one hundred days, and I for one would like to know what he as President has done for us, the American people. Well, I would like to answer that question. The answer is nothing. What happened to all the promises? Sure he tried to set up some relations in March with the Russians, with the S. A. L. T. talks, but they were a complete failure. One reason was the man he sent to Russia, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. Vance has no experience in these situations and I can't see him obtaining any in the near future. The second reason was the President is playing world leader. He made some comments that the Russians did not like about human rights. Don't get me wrong, what he said was right, but being a politician, I wonder if he knows what it means to be tactful. He took this opportunity to start playing mayor of Mayberry R. F. D., with his sweater and jeans in front of his log-burning fireplace in the White House, having a "Fire Side Chat." And if he continues with his Saturday phone-in, to the closest mathematical estimates, it would take him 737,865 years to speak to ¾'s of the American people.

As his first act in office, President Carter issued an executive order pardoning all of the Vietnam draft evaders and deserters. He gave them a blanket pardon, no holds barred. I understand that the President wanted to end all the internal conflict within the country over the Vietnamese war, but I feel that he should have thought of the 1300 M. I. A. 's and the 65,000 dead Americans, not to mention the other thousands who took up arms for their country without reservation. They did it without asking if it was right or wrong because the honor of their country was at stake. No, I won't even mention the thousands of others in the V. A. Hospitals with wounds and scars that they will carry for the rest of their lives. I think that it was time for the pardon, time to forget the war, but not time to forget the sacrifices that good men have made. I feel that these men should have worked for the pardon and not have had it handed to them as it was. Hasn't the President realized that this is an injustice to all those who served their country instead of running away?

The President has now outlined his master-mind energy program to the Congress. This program is so unrealistic that I will not waste the space even to explain it. Instead of wasting the time of Congress on ridiculous energy proposals, why doesn't he start on projects to develop different forms of energy for the future, which is not too far away.

STUDENT LEADERS SPEAK OUT

Anthony A. Gallotto

(The following interviews with Robert Wilson and Ralph Picarelli were performed on Thursday, April 21. The contents of these interviews have been transcribed below exactly as they occurred, however, certain nonessential and objectionable statements have been carefully edited.) The Editor.

Robert Wilson, being one of Bishop Ford's most upstanding and involved students, was elected to the office as a Co-President. His character and his leadership abilities have earned him great respect among the student body. During a recent discussion that transpired between Bob and me, the following questions arose:

Editor: Before you were elected to the office you now hold I'm quite sure that you set certain goals. I am interested to know what they were.

Wilson: Before I became President I had certain goals, goals for myself and for the school. I wanted to make Bishop Ford a school that all the students could be proud of, I wanted to make the student body interested in Bishop Ford. I had hoped that I could build the spirit of the student body or at least spark their interest in the school.

Editor: Do you feel that these goals were fully accomplished?

Wilson: To tell you the truth, we (the Student Council) accomplished only a few of these goals. Some Student Council members will say we accomplished more, but personally I feel that we could have done much better.

Editor: What is your opinion of the other half of this Co-Presidency, Ralph Piccarelli, as far as his attitude toward the school and his work this year?

Wilson: To tell you the truth, both of us came into the Student Council just a little unfamiliar with its workings and its purpose. I really should not include Ralph, I should say that I was less familiar than he; after all, he came into contact with the Student Council as a reporter for Highpoint. Honestly, Ralph could have done much better than he did.

Editor: It seems to me that the other members have not been as interested in the Student Council as much as they should have been. Why is this so?

Wilson: In the beginning of the year the Student Council had a great deal of enthusiasm for the school, they had a great deal of hope and many of them were interested. But, as time went on and as the year progressed, and they saw that we could not get much accomplished, through no fault of our own, their spirit diminished because they had nothing to fight for.

Editor: What is your opinion of the moderator of the Student Government, Brother August Sosa? How do you feel about the new arrangement of the Student Council and the new policies that Brother August instituted?

Wilson: The new policies that Brother August introduced could have worked if we had been allowed to adjust to them. The policies that he introduced to us could have made the Student Council work the way a Student Council should; however, he was too forceful. He forced the policies upon us and they were very hard to adjust to. Still, I feel the best way to operate a Student Council is the way Brother August wanted to run it.

Editor: Relative to the Senior Assembly that was recently organized by the Student Council, do you feel that anything was really accomplished?

Wilson: I feel that very much was accomplished.

Editor: Why?

Wilson: Well, there was a lot accomplished and, then again, there was a great deal left undone; this is mainly through negligence...

Editor: Negligence on whose part?

Wilson: Mostly on the part of the Student Council, because many things came about. It's not really their fault...

Editor: Then, who was at fault?

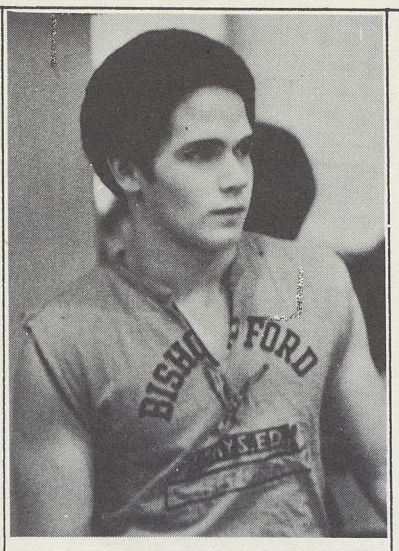
Wilson: Well, like I said before, they lost interest. Although the results were typed up, they were not typed up as quickly as the administration would have liked and this caused friction between us. On the other hand, the assembly gave the seniors the opportunity to express their opinions.

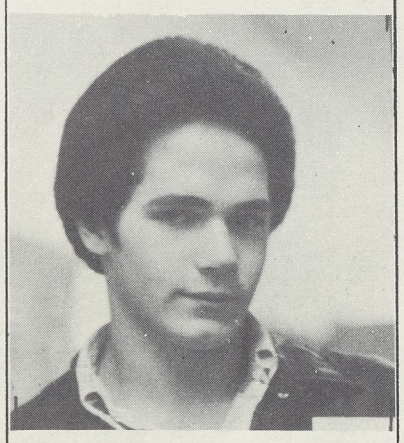
Editor: Just allowing the seniors to express their opinions, did this in any way help them to resolve their problems?

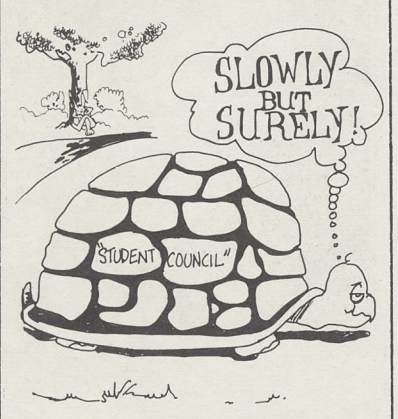
Wilson: It helped them in a way. It gave them the opportunity to get things out in the open; however, the assembly did not resolve any problems whatsoever. Truthfully, for all we discussed at that assembly, for all we wanted to do, I can honestly say that nothing will be done this year, not through our fault, but due to the administration.

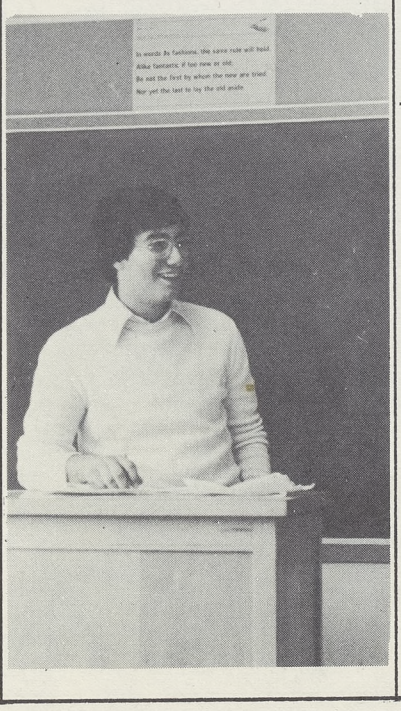
Editor: It's my opinion that this assembly, which dealt with such vital matters, was organized too late in the year.

Wilson: Well, up until that time we did not receive many complaints about the seniors by the administration. Of course we received the usual amount, but these were on rare occassions. But, just before the assembly, we received many complaints...









Editor: What did these complaints deal with?

Wilson: They mainly dealt with vandalism, the destruction of school property, harassment, and other similiar arguments.

Editor: What did the administration ask you to do about these problems?

Wilson: They told us that it would be for the student body's own benefit to get to the root of the problems. The administration was very determined that we accomplished this. I have found that the main cause of these problems was lack of spirit in the school. The students feel that the school has not given them anything so, they do not feel obligated to give anything in return.

Editor: What do you think the students should have been given by the school?

Wilson: All that could have been asked of this school was to show a slight amount of kindness. The students want to be listened to, they do not want to have demands made of them. It is vital that the administration listen; they do make mistakes, and I think that since the beginning of this year they have made quite a few mistakes.

Editor: Can you give me some idea of what these mistakes are?

Wilson: Firstly, the demerit system must be changed for the students and the administration to be in harmony. If a student receives demerits, he feels that there is no way of correcting what has already been done. It is for this reason that I feel a merit system should be instituted. There are a few other problems, such as the suspension of senior privileges, and I could go on. However, I feel that these two are the most important.

Editor: Did the Administration assist you to accomplish anything concerning the assembly?

Wilson: All I can say is that the administration did not make things more difficult, on the other hand they did not actually aid us. In my opinion, the administration of this school really has changed from the way in which they operated in the old school. In the past they showed some concern for the students, now their only interest is to enforce the rules. But the administration should remember that the students are not accustomed to the rules. We are adults, young, but still adults; I feel that the rules do not have to be enforced to their fullest. While these rules must exist, there should be some elastic quality.

Editor: I understand your point and I do agree with it to some extent. But, don't you feel that there are some students who actually deserve to be, in some way, disciplined?

Wilson: Yes, of course, but there are those students who have reasons for bending the rules, such as in the case of lateness.

Editor: In recent months it has come to my attention that there are some members of the Ford community who feel that I take an overly negative position when it comes to the Student Council. Do you feel that I have critized you unjustly?

Wilson: No, not really, I can't say that you have. Your job is to report the news as you see it, no matter if it is good or bad. I know that you have to tell the truth. As far as the newspaper giving us a fair shake, its not supposed to. You are here as an unbiased observer; just because you and I are friends, our personal relationship should not interfere with our duties to the school. In most cases, the articles were actually helpful to the Council.

Editor: In February we published an issue that contained a cartoon which portrayed the Student Council with their feet upon a desk just relaxing. Did you feel that this was harmful to the reputation of the Student Council?

Wilson: When I first saw the cartoon I was surprised because it was totally contrary to the way I thought the Council was working. But what was even more surprising was that the cartoon made us work harder. We began to think,"Is this enough?" That's when we tried to do that much more.

As Bob Wilson sat before me that Thursday morning I came to realize that he had done much by just giving his time and effort to the school and to the cause he believed in... the student body.

(This second interview with Ralph Piccarelli was not done simultaneously with that of Robert Wilson for the sole purpose of allowing the entire Ford community to gain an awareness of the great diversity between the two student leaders.) The Editor

Ralph Piccarelli, the tall and broad-shouldered youth who, together with Robert Wilson, spearheads the Student Government of Bishop Ford Central Catholic High School, spoke with me on matters that concern the general interest of all students, faculty and administrators. Here is the entire interview transcribed just as it occurred.

Editor: What goals did you set for yourself at the beginning of this year?

Piccarelli: My goals included bringing back the prestige to the office of President that had been missing from it in the past. Furthermore, my goals included the organization of trips, dances, and parties. I wanted to raise the spirit in Bishop Ford

Editor: Do you feel that you accomplished these goals?

Piccarelli: I feel that I certainly brought spirit to Bishop Ford; last year something was missing in the old school, this year we have a new school and a reinforced spirit.

Editor: What is your opinion of Robert Wilson insofar as his work

this year relating to the Student Council?

Piccarelli: I like Bob, we have a great deal in common. It's been a tough year—many things have taken place: the transition to the new school, the new teachers, the girls and everything else. Yet, I feel he has done a good job, also.

Editor: Do you have any comments about the other members of the Student Council, on the board, in the upper or lower houses?

Piccarelli: They have all worked beautifully. Off hand, I can comment on John Polizzotto, Steve Cappiabianca, and the great work John Zielinski did in organizing the dances. Everyone on the board made tremendous efforts.

Editor: What is your feeling about the members of the Student Council who have not worked to their fullest potential?

Piccarelli: Much of it is due to the fact that they have taken an interest in different things. Many of them just ran for office for the sake of running. On the whole, most of them have done what I asked them to do.

Editor: How, then, can you account for the things that were not accomplished?

Piccarelli: I can list ten major functions that we have had this year, which is much better than last year. We have had problems getting together. . .

Editor: However, every group and organization faces that problem.

Piccarelli: True, every group has that problem. We have had to face the transition, and the new teachers have not aided the situation. It has truly been tough, very tough.

Editor: Do you have any opinion about the new policies and arrangement of the Student Council?

Piccarelli: I feel that having a Council board was a great idea. We have reduced the size of the Council to a few select people. We had an upper and lower house system for a while, but I felt that it was unfair to get them here at 7:45 in the morning. Although we had things to discuss with them, most people on the Council did not like the idea, yet, we had good, consistent attendance. Most people said that we would not do much with a reduced amount of people on the Council, but we accomplished a great deal.

Editor: What is your opinion of Brother August and his work with the Student Council this year?

Piccarelli: Brother August had a great deal to do with the set-up of the Student Council and he was its driving force.

Editor: Explain the way in which Brother August aided in the set-up of the Council.

Piccarelli: Brother August wrote the constitution, but only because of the very late date at which I was elected. Most presidents knew they were elected in May; I did not know until October. And let us remember, it was not until November that we were given an office. I believe that he wrote a very good constitution in the time he had and, although he is new in the school, he is overly dedicated. Brother August and I have not agreed on everything. We have not seen eye to eye, but then, no one does. I respect him for what he is and his opinions, and he respects me for who I am and my opinions.

Editor: Do you feel that anything was really accomplished at the Senior Assembly?

Piccarelli: I feel that quite a few people who were given the chance to express themselves really felt relieved. All that we, the Council, did was to record the opinions, and I am presently in the process of typing them up; then I will submit them to the principal. But at this time the suggestions are in my possession. I believe that the assembly accomplished a great deal because it gave the seniors the opportunity to speak out.

Editor: Do you actually believe that, just because the seniors made their voices heard and the Council took dictation and will submit the suggestions to the administration, anything was accomplished?

Piccarelli: The entire purpose of the assembly was to have the seniors express their opinions on things that they do not like; this was done and, therefore, something was accomplished.

Editor: Then the question arises, will anything be resolved this year?

Editor: Why was the assembly held so late in the year? There is no doubt that you and the rest of the Student Council were aware of the seniors' dissatisfaction!

Piccarelli: The main complaints were about the demerit system. Although the demerit system was with us from the very start of the year, I felt we should give it a chance. Then, when the ski trip came around, many seniors came to realize that the demerit system was really hurting them. This was in February; then, in the beginning of March, we held the assembly.

Editor: Even though all you have said is true, it was generally agreed from the earliest part of this school year that the demerit system was a real problem. Why did you wait so long to get working?

Piccarelli: To tell the truth, there was a real hassle, what with the transition, the paper work, the dances, the trip, the movies, the parties. . . . .

Editor: Can you honestly say that dances, trips, movies and parties are more important than something so vital, so present, so outstandingly wrong as the demerit system?

Piccarelli: It occurred to us, surely, but it really built itself up by February and then four or five weeks later we had the assembly. There were too many other problems and projects earlier in the year. As I told you before I did not know I was elected until October and we did not get an office until November. . . .but I do hope the students get a merit system.

Editor: Did the administration assist you in anyway during the project of the assembly (before or after)?

Piccarelli: No, not in any way!

Editor: When the administration receives these formal suggestions, what do they intend to do with them?

Piccarelli: Well, supposedly, as Brother Alphonsus told me, he would give them to the discipline committee and they are going to look them over.

Editor: Are you seeing to it that something gets accomplished this year concerning the demerit system?

Piccarelli: I'm sure that Brother Alphonsus will receive the suggestions before the last meetings of the committee. If he wants to use them, that is up to him. But it is my opinion that we have kicked up such a storm that the administration knows the students want a merit system... they will get it!!

Editor: Looking back on this entire year, do you think that you would do anything different if you could do it all over again?

Piccarelli: A captain is only as good as his team, I think the spirit was not that great! It was not so astounding. . .

Editor: Who was lacking in spirit?

Piccarelli: I think the spirit among the student body was not all that great...

Editor: And whose job is it to raise that spirit?

Piccarelli: I think it is everyone's job. . . .

Editor: Yes, but whose job is it to make the spirit flow?

Piccarelli: You want to talk about the flow! We have held trips,dances and parties and the school spirit did not flow too well!!

Editor: You said earlier in this interview that one of your goals was to bring spirit to Bishop Ford. You go on to say that you organized these parties, trips, and dances in order to increase the school spirit. Then. . .

Piccarelli: Yes, that's right, but. . .

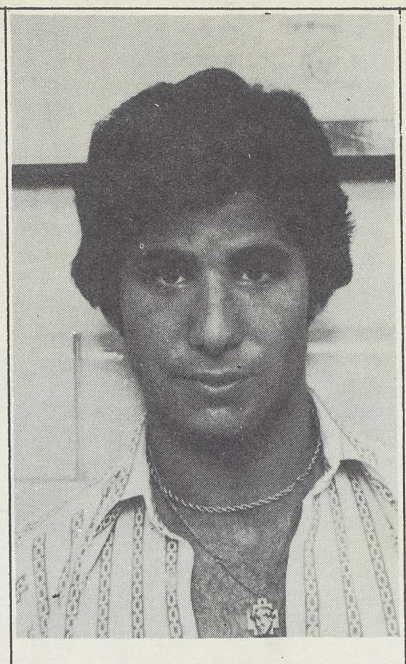
Editor: Then how can you honestly say that you accomplished your goals. You are contradicting yourself.

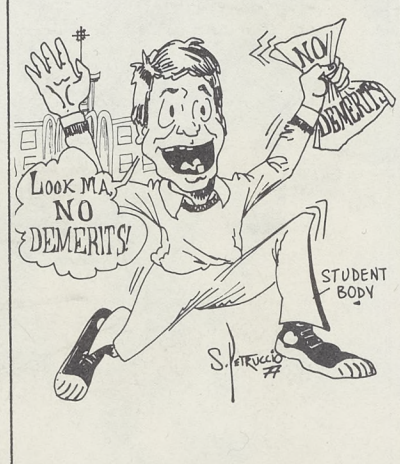
Piccarelli: I achieved my goals on a percentile. If we were talking about 100 people and I could get 45 to participate... You know, if you're batting 500, you're playing good baseball!!!

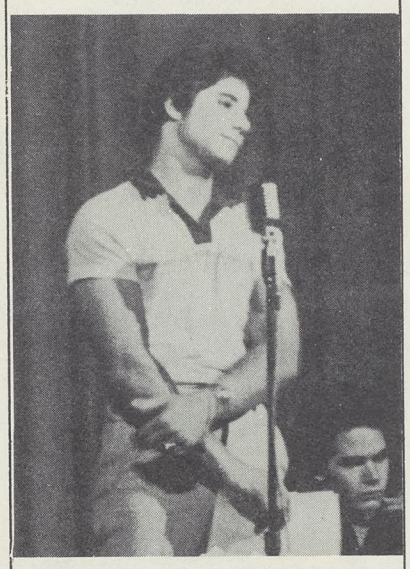
Editor: Do you have any final remarks or comments about the school, the students, or the administration?

Piccarelli: I feel very strongly about the school. The school is great. I love the school. The new people have done a tremendous job. Furthermore, I feel that, on the whole, each individual person should look at himself and say, "Where am I now? How can I better myself," and especially see where he stands by himself and with others. The students should try to get the best out of this school and only if they do this then can they leave this school like I leave it, with a great taste in my mouth, instead of some others who cannot wait for June 4th to come and go.

(Here before you are two interviews. Those being interviewed have made statements concerning matters that are extremely familiar to all of us. These statements should be some indication to you of the manner in which the Student Government has operated, and furthermore, the statements should give a clear indication as to the type of people that lead this government. We hope that, from this interview, you will draw some of your own conclusions about this year's government. It is our hope that your own judgment will be far superior to any we could possibly offer.) The Editor.







Gary Falcone

Arthur Aritelli recently won a "Fonzie" look-alike contest that was held by the Nellie Bly Amusement Park Recreational Committee. The contest was held at the Nellie Bly Amusement Park located off the Belt Parkway near Bay Parkway. Arthur defeated twenty other contestants with his impression of Fonzie and his costume, winning a twenty-five dollar gift certificate and a chance to appear on cable T. V.

One of Arthur's friends who works at the amusement park told him that they were holding the contest and induced him to enter. Arthur stated,"I really did not want to enter, I was slightly afraid that I would only make a fool of myself. However, Jerry Cavallaro talked me into it and I won."

The clothes that Arthur wore during the competition came from three different sources, as Arthur explained,"I borrowed the leather jacket from one of my friends, the pants came from this girl I know (the only reason I borrowed them from her is because they had to be tight-fitting and she is very thin), and the shoes were borrowed from a man who worked at the amusement park."

After capturing the amusement park competition, Arthur "the Fonz" Aritelli won another look-alike competition sponsored by Teleton, which is a small T. V. production agency. When asked if he would ever do it again Arthur stated,"Ahhhhh. . ."

Arthur Aritelli: THE LOOKING GLASS FONZ

Mary Ann Roiewsted and Arthur Aritelli